

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 3, 4, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, and 28-31 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:
a menu storage unit storing characteristic menu information including a plurality of commands corresponding to applications~~corresponding to applications, the characteristic menu information configured to be composed of key codes serving as commands in applications;~~
a menu window displaying a menu using the characteristic menu information stored in said menu storage unit when an application is activated; and
a menu development unit ~~discriminating whether one of the applications which discriminates an application that is activated is being executed and~~ causes the menu window displaying to display a menu corresponding to the discriminated application on a screen using said characteristic menu information,
wherein each menu item in the menu is composed of key codes serving as commands for the application.

2. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a menu execution unit executing a processing corresponding to a menu item selected from said menu.

3. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:
a menu storage unit storing characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications;
a menu window displaying a menu using the characteristic menu information stored in said menu storage unit when an application is activated; and
a menu development unit discriminating whether at least one of the plurality of applications is ~~executed~~ active and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated

application on a screen using said characteristic menu information;

wherein ~~said displayed menu if the discriminated application for which said menu information exists is being executed, allows selecting and activating at least one other of the plurality of applications is selected from the executing discriminated application and activated.~~

4. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:
a menu development unit discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated at least one application on a screen menu using characteristic menu information;

wherein said menu development unit displays a predetermined menu on the screen if an ~~application which does not store there is no stored characteristic said menu information is being executed~~ corresponding to the at least one application.

5. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said predetermined menu is a launcher menu for starting the applications.

6. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein if a menu item is selected from said menu, the menu is deleted from the screen.

7. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information processing apparatus comprises an indication unit indicating display of said menu and said menu development unit discriminates the executing application if an indication of said indication unit is detected.

8. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said indication unit is a device consisting of a scroll-up button and a scroll-down button for changing selection of the menu item from said menu and a defined button for determining the selected menu item.

9. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said defined button is operated to thereby indicate the display of said menu.

10. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said defined button is arranged between said scroll-up button and said scroll-down button.

11. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said scroll-up button and said scroll-down button are a seesaw switch provided with a pair of switch contacts operating by depressing one of operation regions on both ends of a switch knob, and said defined button is a push button switch arranged in a hole formed at a center of said switch knob.

12. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said indication unit is provided in front of a keyboard.

13. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the information processing apparatus comprises:
a cover on which a display is arranged;
a main body on which said keyboard is arranged; and
a coupling section coupling the cover to the main body.

14. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method for displaying a menu on a screen, comprising:
discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and
displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application ~~based on a discriminating result while using the~~ characteristic menu information corresponding to ~~applications, the characteristic menu information configured to be~~ the discriminated application, menu items of the menu being composed of key codes serving as commands in applications.

15. (Previously Presented) A menu processing method according to claim 14, comprising executing a processing corresponding to a menu item selected from said menu.

16. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method for displaying a menu on a screen comprising:
discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and
displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications;
wherein if the discriminated application for which said menu information exists is being executed, at least one other of the plurality of applications is selected from the menu of the

executing application and activated.

17. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method for displaying a menu on a screen, comprising:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and displaying a menu corresponding to the at least one discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications;

wherein a predetermined menu is displayed on the screen if ~~an application, for which said menu information exists, is being executed~~ there is no stored characteristic menu information corresponding to the at least one discriminated application.

18. (Original) A menu processing method according to claim 17, wherein said predetermined menu is a launcher menu for starting the applications.

19. (Original) A menu processing method according to claim 14, wherein if a menu item is selected from said menu, the menu is deleted from the screen.

20. (Previously Presented) A menu processing method according to claim 14, comprising indicating display of said menu, and the executing application is discriminated if an indication is detected.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium recording a menu processing program, the menu processing program allowing a computer to execute the operations of:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using said characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications, the characteristic menu information ~~configured being used to be configure menu items~~ composed of key codes and serving as commands in the plurality of applications.

22. (Original) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 21, wherein said menu processing program conducts a processing corresponding to a menu item selected from said menu.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium recording a menu processing program allowing a computer to execute the operation of:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications;

wherein if the discriminated application for which said menu information exists is being executed, at least one other of the plurality of applications is selected from the executing discriminated application and activated.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium recording a menu processing program allowing a computer to execute the operation of:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using characteristic menu information corresponding to ~~a~~ the plurality of applications;

wherein if an application, for which said menu information ~~does not exist~~ exists is being executed, ~~said menu processing program displays a predetermined menu on the screen~~ is displayed on the screen.

25. (Original) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 24, wherein said predetermined menu is a launcher menu for starting the applications.

26. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 21, wherein if a menu item is selected from said menu, said menu processing program deletes the menu from the screen.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 21, wherein an indication of display of said menu is detected, and the executing application is discriminated if said indication is detected.

28. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method, comprising:
storing menu characteristic information corresponding to a plurality of applications, the menu characteristic information ~~configured being used to configure menu items to be composed~~ of key codes serving as commands in applications;

determining whether an activated control activates at least one of the plurality of applications; and

displaying a menu for the activated application ~~if the activated application corresponding to the control exists where the menu is displayed responsive to~~ includes the menu items configured based on the menu characteristic information corresponding to the activated application.

29. (Currently Amended) An information processing method, comprising:

storing characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications, the characteristic menu information being used to configured to be configure menu items composed of key codes serving as commands in ~~application~~ applications;

performing a test to determine whether at least one of the plurality of applications is executing; and

displaying a menu corresponding to the at least one executing application on a screen using said menu ~~information items~~ when the test determined the at least one executing application ~~is determined to be executing by the test.~~

30. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

storing characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications, the characteristic menu information ~~configured to be~~ being used to configure menu items composed of key codes serving as commands in applications;

discriminating whether at least one of the plurality of applications is started and displaying a menu corresponding to the started application on a screen using said menu ~~information items~~; and

displaying a predetermined menu only when a menu corresponding to an application is not displayed.

31. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a storage storing application menus of ~~executing applications~~ that run in different screens and an application launcher menu, the application launcher menu being composed of key codes serving as commands in applications;

a menu activation button; and

a computer and display system, ~~when the menu activation button is activated,~~ performing a test to determine if ~~is an application~~ corresponding to ~~one a menu~~ of the application menus is executing and displaying the ~~one of the application menus~~ menu corresponding to the executing

application when the application corresponding to the ~~one~~menu of the application menus is executing and displaying the application launcher menu when an application corresponding to one of the application menus is not executing.